



Commission on Disability Issues (CODI) Minutes Memorandum

*Stephen P. Clark Center (SPCC) 111 N.W. 1st Street, Miami, Florida 33128
18th Floor, Conference Room 18-4*

	Date:	Wednesday, September 30, 2015	
	Time:	1:30 p.m. – 4 p.m.	
	Call to Order Time:	1:44 p.m.	
	Meeting Adjourned:	4:15 p.m.	
I.	<u>Opening and Attendance:</u> Distributed Materials. Call to Order. Attendance recorded.		
	District 1 Commissioner Jordan	Damian Gregory 1 st Vice Chair	Excused Absence
	District 2 Commissioner Monestime	Jackson David	Present
	District 3 Commissioner Edmonson	Jose Granda Access Committee Chair	Present
	District 4 Commissioner Heyman	Jesus Garcia Transportation & Aviation Committee Chair & 2 nd Vice Chair	Via Speaker Phone
	District 5 Commissioner Barreiro	Ernie Martinez CODI Chairman	Present
	District 6 Commissioner Sosa	Ora Prilleltensky	Present
	District 7 Commissioner Suarez	Harry Horgan Outreach Committee Chair	Excused Absence
	District 8 Commissioner Levine Cava	Elizabeth Merkling	Excused Absence
	District 9 Commissioner Moss	Ronald Fulton CODI Secretary	Present

	District 10 Commissioner Souto	Russell Otway	Excused Absence
	District 11 Commissioner Zapata	PENDING APPOINTMENT	
	District 12 Commissioner Diaz	Maria “Mercedes” Villar	Present
	District 13 Commissioner Bovo	Alan Rigerman	Excused Absence
	Miami-Dade County Staff Present	Heidi Johnson-Wright, ISD ADA Coordinator Skarlex Alorda, ISD ADA CODI Support & Recording Secretary Rick Fernandez, Aviation, Supervisor of Landside Operations & ADA Coordinator Bill Velez, MDT, Paratransit Operations Lucy Binhack, MDPR, Disability Service Manager Jody Cox, MDPR, Recreation Therapist 2 Lizzette Puig, CAHSD, DSAIL Office, Disability Services Specialist Members of the Public: Rey Bonachea HLAA Miami Chapter	
II.	Approval of Agenda & Minutes	Chairman Martinez stated that there was not sufficient attendance to achieve quorum at the beginning of the meeting.	
III.	Public Open Comments	<p>Dr. Prilleltensky shared a very uncomfortable experience she had during her cab ride to today’s meeting. She said the driver did not tie down her chair. It was completely unacceptable.</p> <p>Ms. Johnson-Wright suggested Dr. Prilleltensky attend a Taxi Advisory Group (TAG) meeting. This would give her an opportunity to voice her concerns.</p> <p>Mr. Garcia said that that he was surprised that Dr. Prilleltensky was able to obtain a cab with a lift at all. He said this same issue will need to be addressed when Uber is regulated. Mr. Garcia said that there are a few cities that have a better taxi system, including Chicago and Wash. D.C. Mr. Garcia said if CODI wants to look into taxi issues, they need to include RER staff in the discussion. Right now is</p>	

		the time to ignite the fire. A discussion ensued.
IV.	Information Items	<p>CODI RETREAT UPDATE</p> <p>Mr. Fulton said that the invitation letters have been sent to the commissioners, presenters and the Mayor. Mr. Fulton asked Dr. Prilleltensky to do a breakout session as an ice breaker, but after further consideration, he felt it will take too long. Dr. Prilleltensky said that her concern regarding the retreat was how it was unfolding.</p> <p>Chairman Martinez inquired about the agenda, which Ms. Alorda said is currently in rough draft form. Ms. Alorda said the invitation letters to the presenters have been drafted and are ready to be sent to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Donna Walton of the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC) • Michael Liu, Director of MDC Public Housing & Community Development • Rick Beasley, Executive Director of South Florida Workforce (CareerSource South Florida) • Alice Bravo, Director of M-D Transit. <p>Mr. Fulton also said that if a Commissioner comes to the retreat, the agenda will be put on hold and he/she will be given an opportunity to speak. Lunch will be served from 12-1pm. Mr. Gregory will serve as a master of ceremonies. Chairman Martinez asked Mr. Fulton if Mr. Gregory knows he is being given this role. Mr. Fulton said that Mr. Gregory knows because he expressed interest at the last meeting.</p> <hr/> <p>Dr. Prilleltensky Exercise</p> <p>Dr. Prilleltensky has offered to lead CODI in a useful planning/goal identification exercise. “Start, Stop, Continue” creates an opportunity for CODI to reflect on how we do things as a group. What are we doing well and want to continue? What practices do we want to change or stop, because they are not advancing our work? What new practices or ways of doing things, do we want to adopt?</p> <p>Dr. Prilleltensky said that, given the draft agenda, the exercise is too long for the retreat. Mr. Granda agreed that it should be done at a different meeting. Chairman Martinez said that Dr. Prilleltensky’s exercise is material suitable for the retreat. Why not do it then?</p> <p>Mr. Granda said that the word “retreat” doesn’t really fit the Oct. 27 event. that should be called a “special event.” Chairman Martinez said CODI will consider the exercise and set up a Sunshine meeting to discuss and organize for the future</p>

		<p>meeting.</p> <p>Ms. Johnson-Wright said that Dr. Prilleltensky sent an email that she wanted disseminated to CODI members. Ms. Graves said that the dissemination of the email is not problematic. It's the likelihood that members will respond to it, which would be a sunshine law violation. Board members may send emails to Ms. Johnson-Wright who can distribute them to the rest of CODI provided no board members respond back. Dr. Prilleltensky suggested such an email could be sent to ADA Office which would bring it to a CODI meeting to be put on the agenda for discussion.</p> <hr/> <p>Miami-Dade Transit Issues</p> <p>Dr. Prilleltensky raised the issue of Metrorail station elevators being out of service. Mr. Garcia said he does not understand why such a key station like Dadeland South has only one elevator. He also said that someone will file an ADA complaint then will end up filing an ADA lawsuit.</p> <p>Mr. Velez said that CODI should invite Bob McClellan, Chief of Transit Infrastructure Engineering & Maintenance to a future CODI meeting. This way Mr. McClellan hears for himself CODI's concerns. Mr. Velez said the elevators are 30 years old. This is why they are constantly being worked on.</p> <p>Ms. Shelly Krause, a member of the public, said she arrived late the CODI meeting because the elevator at the SW 1st street & Miami Avenue Metromover station is not working.</p> <p>Dr. Prilleltensky raised the issue of Metrorail conductors providing station announcements that are indiscernible or no announcements at all. How can those announcement sound clearer? Mr. Garcia said that the main problem is conductors not speaking slowly or clearly enough. The second is that the cars are old and PA systems are in poor condition.</p> <p>Mr. Velez said the only way Transit is informed of lack or announcements is rider complaints. Ms. Alorda said if you can't get the operators name then get the number on the side of the car. A discussion ensued.</p>
V.	Committee Assignments	<p>The Busway & STS</p> <p>Transportation & Aviation Committee Chairman Garcia said that the busway issue – the proposed use of the busway by STS vehicles -- is still pending. It needs to be voted on. Mr. Fulton suggested bringing back a secret shopper program to report on quality of service. Mr. Garcia said be careful stirring up</p>

		<p>STS. Ms. Johnson-Wright asked Mr. Velez why taxis were included in the Busway report sent to CODI. She said she was perplexed as to why taxis were included. She asked Mr. Velez if they had consulted with Regulatory & Economic Resources (RER). Mr. Velez answered the scheduling people put the report together. A discussion ensued.</p> <p>ASL Interpreters During Mayor's Televised Statements</p> <p>Access Committee Chairman Granda inquired as to why the Corrections department has not responded to CODI's invitation to come to a meeting. Chairman Granda asked what is the number of incarcerated deaf individuals. Is there access to ASL interpreters for deaf individuals when arrested? Chairman Martinez said he will be following up regarding those questions.</p> <p>Chairman Granda said that the ASL interpreter cannot be seen during the Mayor's televised statements during emergency management mobilizations. Seeing half of the interpreter is not acceptable. There will be an Access Committee meeting on October 8, 2015 in Conference room 18-4. Ms. Johnson-Wright said the ADA Office will reach out to the Mayor's Office regarding the televised interpreter issue.</p>
VI.	Chairman Comments	<p>Chairman Martinez said he enjoyed the ADA Arts Summit. Ms. Johnson-Wright added that Cultural Arts provides grants to arts organizations pay for the barrier removal.</p>
VII.	Adjourned	<p>Today's meeting adjourned at 4:15pm.</p> <p>The next CODI meeting will be held on Wednesday, January 27, 2016 from 1:30pm - 4:00 pm in Conference Room 18-4.</p>